

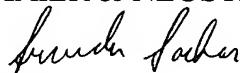
By the present preliminary amendment, original Claims 1-12 are cancelled and new Claims 13-24 are presented for examination. New Claims 13-24 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including original Claims 1-12, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

A new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is also submitted herein.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Serial No:

Amendment Filed on:

1-18-2002IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

Claims 13-24 (New).

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

--Abstract (New).--

20031341-014802